



October 1, 2023

Melville United Church

300 St. Andrew Street West, Fergus, ON N1M 1N9

Mailing address: PO Box 41, Fergus, ON N1M2W7

519-843-1781

Team Ministry

Minister of Worship, Pastoral Care & Outreach	Rev. Lynda Goy-Flint
Faith Formation & Youth	
Ministry of Music Team	Suzanne Flewelling, Colleen Weber
Office Administrator	Lynda Rivet
Custodian	Suzanne Flewelling
Chair of Church Council	Allan Hons
Chair of Pastoral Care & Prayer Chain Captain	Alison Rainford
Office hours	9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. T., Th. & F.
E-Mail	secretary@melvilleunited.com
Web Site	www.melvilleunited.com
Pastoral Care Numbers	519-843-3841

Melville United church
Sunday October 1, 2023

Presiding: Rev. Tom Watson
Music Ministry: Colleen Weber

Prelude

Welcome

Good morning! Welcome to worship at Melville United Church. How wonderful to be together—both in person here in the sanctuary and online.

Announcements:

If you are worshipping with us for the first time, welcome! Please join us for refreshments and conversation in the parlour after the service.

- **UCW meat pies** are for sale and are only **\$5.00 each!** You can pay by either a cheque made out to Melville United Church UCW or cash. Please have the correct change if you can. You can purchase them after Sunday Service or by contacting Marg Frayne @ 519-843-3274.
- Join Ruth Sproule on **October 6, and 13 from 9 AM to 12 PM** along with Coffee Time to **attach poppies to the netting**, preserving last year's and filling a new piece.
- **Friday or Sunday Coffee Time** – We encourage people to sign up to host either a Friday or a Sunday Coffee Time. It is not difficult! We'd be pleased to show you how. Sign-up sheets are at the Parlour Door. Please speak to Lorna Bevcar or Marg Frayne.
- The **Food Bank** is in need of donations, more than ever. Please consider bringing donations of nonperishables, toiletries, or a gift card, to church. Baskets are located in the sanctuary. **Items most needed are:** pasta sauce, Chunky soup (Habitant), small canned soup, pasta side dishes, canned vegetables, canned tomatoes, canned fruit, cold cereal, peanut butter, juice, jam, canned salmon, and canned pasta (beefaroni, etc.).
- **Orange shirts!** Truth and Reconciliation Day is September 30th. We encourage you to wear your Orange shirt on that day as well as **October 1st** and **October 15th**.
- **Cozy Closet:** We will be collecting new or gently used, warm clothing, such as coats, sweaters, hats, mitts, socks, pants, snow suits and boots, from **October 1-26**. Items collected will be displayed on October 28 and November 4, here at Melville, where individuals can come in and choose what they need. More details to follow.
- Wellington County **Food Access Guide** is created to help people facing food insecurity in the region access free or affordable food. This resource provides details on food assistance providers, eligibility, and the services they offer. Access the guide at <https://www.gwpoverty.ca/resources/access-guides>.
- **Saturday, September 30, 11:00am-3:30pm** Fall into Fall Antique Quilt Show. Knox Presbyterian Church, 51 Church St. E. Elora. **Quilt Show:** \$10. Quilt Draw – September 30, 3:00 pm. Tickets: \$5 each or 3/\$10, 519-846-0680, 519-846-8061. **Lunch** served – Soup,

Sandwiches, Dessert, Tea & Coffee – Cost \$10. **Marketplace** – White Elephant, Crafts, Baking, Treasures Galore

- The music series “**Mid-Day Music at Melville**” presented by pianist Brad Halls returns for its second season of concerts beginning on **Wednesday, October 4 from 12 noon to about 1:00 p.m.** at Melville United Church in Fergus **and will continue each Wednesday** thereafter until around the end of April next year. For this season, Brad plans to present a musical journey through the past 100 years of the Broadway musical, beginning in 1923 and continuing to the present day. There is no admission cost for these concerts, but a voluntary donation to Melville United Church to help keep the lights on and the piano tuned is always appreciated.
- **Saturday, October 14th, 11:00am-2:00pm Centre Wellington Fire Rescue Open House.** Come meet your Centre Wellington Fire Rescue Firefighters! Elora Fire Station, 72 Wellington County Road 7. Food trucks and activities on site, with a special performance by the Fergus Pipe Band at 1:00pm!
- **Saturday, October 14th, 1:00-7:00pm** Centre Wellington Mobile Market Presents **The Food Rescue Picnic.** Join us for food, music, and fun! The Skol Huse 24 North Broadway St. Belwood. For more information or to purchase tickets visit <https://www.ticketscene.ca/o/cwmm>
- Monday **October 16th from 6PM-8PM** Fall Fashion Show at [Silveri Jewellers!](#) Join earlier at 5PM for in-store shopping with 30% off! Over a dozen Raffle Prizes, Refreshments and Hors d’oeuvres, Door Prize! Partnering local Businesses: [Millennium Clothing](#), [Dalia Lingerie](#), [IF Footwear](#) Tickets are \$50 each, with limited availability. Proceeds raised at **this event support the programs and families at Michael House.**
- **Attention all students! Remembrance Day Poster and Literacy Contest.** Entry forms and competition details are available for pick up at the Fergus Legion Club Room 500 Blair St., Fergus - weekdays after 2:00pm & weekends after 12:00pm.
- Mark your calendars for **November 18th at 7:00pm**, because the King is coming to Melville! Join us for an unforgettable evening with the incredible **Elvis Tribute Artist**, Garry Wesley! Tickets will be \$25 and will be on sale soon. More details coming soon.

Land Acknowledgement

Let us take time to acknowledge the peoples who have lived on and stewarded these lands since time immemorial.

God, help us to be thankful, and to become better neighbours and stewards that we might continue to honour these lands.

Lighting the Christ Candle

We now take a moment to centre ourselves for worship as I light the Christ candle.

I light a candle

in the name of the God who creates life,

in the name of the Christ Presence who loves life,

in the name of the Spirit who is the fire of life.

Call to Worship

Welcome to this time of Worship! Welcome to the grace of our Communion table on this World Wide Communion Sunday.

As we gather here this morning, we remember that we gather, on a common Sunday, with people from all over our world.

Together with many others, we share a common loaf of bread, and drink from a common cup.

We are one in Christ who calls us together.

Come, let us worship.

Hymn: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty VU 315

1. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;

Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

2. Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,

Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;

Cherubim and seraphim, falling down before thee,

Which wert, and art and evermore shalt be.

3. Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee

Though the eye made blind by sin thy glory may not see,

Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,

Perfect in power, in love and purity.

4. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Gathering Prayer (in unison):

Gracious God, you call us together from the furthest reaches of our world. You invite us to gather around a table set for us, and so we come. We come to be touched with grace, to be filled with the bread and wine of life, to be nourished by things that satisfy the soul. We come in the name of Christ.

Amen.

Hymn: God of the Bible MV 28 (verses 1, 2, 5)

1. God of the Bible, God in the Gospel,

Hope seen in Jesus, hope yet to come,

You are our centre, daylight or darkness,

Freedom or prison, you are our home.

refrain:

Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,

God always faithful, you do not change.

Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,

God always faithful, you do not change.

2. God in our struggles, God in our hunger,
Suffering with us, taking our part,
Still you empow'r us, mothering Spirit,
Feeding, sustaining, from your own heart.

refrain:

Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
God always faithful, you do not change.
Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
God always faithful, you do not change.

5. Hope we must carry, shining and certain
Through all our turmoil, terror and loss,
Bonding us gladly one to the other,
Till our world changes facing the Cross.

refrain:

Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
God always faithful, you do not change.
Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
God always faithful, you do not change.

Children's Time

Ministry of Music: "Agnus Dei" by Michael W. Smith, Setting by Wayne Oquin

Scripture Reading — Mark 10:13-14, 16

People brought young children to Jesus, that he might touch them; but his disciples spoke sternly to them.

But when Jesus saw this he was greatly displeased, and said to them, "Let the little children come unto me, do not stop them: for of such is the kingdom of God."

And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them.

MEDITATION: "To a Sleeping Beauty"

One of my great grandchildren is Logan. She lives in Edmonton. She turned 5 in June.

Two weeks ago, Logan's dad sent a picture of Logan, all ready to participate that day in her first Terry Fox run for cancer. I marvelled at that. She's only 5.

It caused me to think about how quickly our children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, grow up, tackle new things, and go on to new adventures.

Maybe you have someone like Logan in your family. A five-year-old off to kindergarten for the first time, the whole world opening up before them. And what we do is watch, and wonder, and hope.

My partner Julia reminded me of a poem by Kahlil Gibran. It's entitled "On Children" and the essence of it is this: "Your children are not your own; they belong to the house of tomorrow."

I'd like to focus our thoughts for a few minutes, this morning, on our children, grandchildren,

great grandchildren, and read for us a piece written by the late country music singer, Jimmy Dean. It's entitled "To a Sleeping Beauty."

Dear Daughter...

I tiptoed into your room last night, and looked down at you smiling in your sleep. You were so lovely, my heart nearly broke. And I thought: "How very much like Sleeping Beauty this little girl is."

When I tuck you in, I never know old you will be when you awake. One evening, you crawl onto your Dad's lap, and throw your arms around his neck. The next morning, you may be much too grown-up for that sort of thing.

You are so quickly approaching the awkward age—too young to drive the car, and yet too old to be carried into the house, half asleep, on Dad's shoulder.

I have a secret I've never told you, Sleeping Beauty: you are going on an exciting trip! You will travel from yesterday all the way to tomorrow.

It's a rapid journey, and you will travel light...leaving behind measles, mumps, freckles, bumps, bubble gum...and me. I promise not to feel hurt when you discover the world is more interesting than Dad's lap.

Yesterday, you were blue-jeaned and pig-tailed—the neighbourhood's best tree climber. Tomorrow, you will be blue-organ-died and pony tailed, and you will view the world from a loftier perch in a pair of high-heeled shoes.

Yesterday, you could mend your doll's broken leg with a hug. Tomorrow...tomorrow, you will be able to break a boy's heart with a kiss.

Yesterday, you could get lost one aisle away from me in the supermarket. Now I have to worry about losing you down some other aisle to a strange young man.

You see, daughter...just at the point where your growing pains stop...mine begin.

Yesterday, you were a pain in the neck when you were around. Tomorrow, you will be an ache in the heart when you're not.

Tomorrow, you will lay aside your jump rope to tie up the telephone line. And the little boy who used to push you down in the mud will fight...to have a dance with you.

The clock downstairs is counting the minutes for you. The sky upstairs is saving its brightest stars. And the sun is waiting with its shiniest days.

I can't expect you to live in your doll house forever. Sooner or later, the butterfly sheds its

cocoon, and the smallest bird must try its wings.

When...when you grow up and out of my arms, when you finally get too big for my shirts, I'll still recall how you used to scatter dust and dolls through every room in the house. But you spread sunshine too.

The dust is settled now. Mom picked up the dolls. But the sunshine will always fill the corners of our house.

So here I am...talking in your sleep...because if you saw this look on my face you would laugh...and if I spoke with this lump in my throat I'd cry.

Yes daughter, when I looked at you tonight you were a Sleeping Beauty...and I tiptoed over...and kissed you.

You didn't wake up. I knew you wouldn't. According to the legend, only the handsome young prince can open your eyes. And I am just the father of the future bride.

Slumber on, my lovely. Tomorrow when you awake, you will be a young woman, and you won't even realize you've changed course in the middle of a dream.

But you might notice a change in me. I'll look different somehow. A little sadder. A little wiser. But a whole lot richer.

For tonight I kissed a princess...and I feel like a king!

Hymn: Eat This Bread VU 466

1. Eat this bread, drink this cup,
Come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup,
Trust in me and you will not thirst.

2. Come and eat, come and drink,
You are welcome here at this table.
Come and eat, come and drink,
This table's been set for you.

Reflection: "What's Communion?"

Recently, at a communion service at First Baptist Church in Guelph, presider Luke Hill reminded people that communion doesn't only take place in church sanctuaries; it happens wherever, and whenever, people gather and share in a common meal.

In a similar vein, Julia and I recently attended the funeral for her friend Don Gosen. During his remarks, Pastor Scott Brubaker-Zehr, of Rockway Mennonite Church in Waterloo, spoke about

his last visit with Don in his palliative care room.

On his way to visit him, Pastor Scott stopped at Tim Hortons and picked up two cups of coffee. When he got to Don's room, he set the two coffees down on the overbed table. Don pointed to something on a small plate, wrapped in a serviette. Don said, "Thanks for the coffee, I've arranged for a treat for us."

Scott removed the napkin. The treat was a bagel, and beside it a small cup of cream cheese. Don was too weak to cut the bagel, so Scott cut it, and put cream cheese on each half-bagel.

There was only one napkin, so Don handed Scott a Kleenex tissue.

They then shared the bagel and drank the coffee.

"That," said Pastor Scott Brubaker-Zehr, "was one of the most profound communion moments I have ever felt."

Wherever, and whenever, people gather and share in a common meal, that's communion.

We Celebrate at the Table

The Invitation to the Table

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to our God!

Let us give thanks to God!

It is right to give God thanks and praise!

The Consecration of the Elements

On the night that Jesus was betrayed he took bread and broke it, saying, "This is my body which is about to be broken for you. As often as you gather to share this bread, do it in remembrance of me." (A piece of bread is broken)

After they had shared the bread, he took the cup of wine and poured it saying, "This is the wine of the new covenant. As often as you gather and share from this cup, do it in remembrance of me." (Wine is poured from the pitcher into a glass or goblet)

Sharing the Bread and Wine

People will come forward to receive the communion elements. During this time, Colleen will play.

Prayers of the people and the Prayer of Jesus

Sharing our joys and concerns

- **Birthdays**
 - Bruce Oldfield celebrates 98 years on Mon Oct 2nd
 - Bruce Lloyd celebrates on Tues Oct 3rd
 - Martha Duncan celebrates on Fri Oct 6th
- **Condolences**
 - Please keep Bunny Russell and her family in your prayers as they deal with the loss of her dear brother and their uncle, William Burke, who lived in Kenora, ON.

Offering Invitation

Offering Hymn: Praise God from whom all Blessings Flow VU 541

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures high and low;
Give thanks to God in love made known,
Creator, Word and Spirit One.**

Offering Prayer

Minute for Mission: Listening and Learning on the Path to Reconciliation

Hymn: Amazing Grace VU 266

1. Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see.
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.
3. Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.
4. The Lord hath promised good to me,
This word my hope secures;
God will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.
5. When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun.

Benediction

Go from this place and live in the amazing grace of God!

May that grace be with us, no matter where we are, and no matter where we go!

Go in peace! **Amen!**

Postlude: "Sortie" by Robert Jones

Household Prayer:

Wondrous God, I am in awe that you would choose to be born among us, revealing your divineness enlivening the ordinary things of my life.

I thank you for the gift of Jesus who walked among us, wept with the suffering and raged in anger at the injustices of his day. I thank you for the vision you etched in his heart, a fullness of righteousness for all the world.

I thank you that he called others to follow that they too might know the joy of new life. As Jesus' disciple, help me to walk in the way. Help me to carry the vision in my heart, however discouraged I get. Help me to see through eyes of faith, my life, my relationships, the world you so love. Help me day by day, in my words and deeds to reflect your light.

Through your wisdom and Spirit, may I grow in my capacity to love you, my neighbour, and myself, as you so love. Amen.

Worship Schedule

October 8	Thanksgiving Sunday	Rev. Felicia Urbanski
October 15	World Food Sunday	Social Justice Committee
October 22	Anniversary Sunday	Rev. Jeff Hawkins
October 29	Halo Study 2 nd half of Service	Rev. Tom Watson